



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

COUNSELLING SERVICES IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS - 101003472763

- a. How many counsellors are employed or commissioned (FTE) by the local authority to support young people in the authority's educational establishments in 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24?**

Exchange contract commenced April 2021, employing 5.2 FTE Counsellors across all 3 Academic Years for children and young people counselling from age 10 and above

- b. What is the ratio of counsellors to young people in the authority's secondary, special and primary educational establishments in 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24?** Moray Council is a fully inclusive authority – we do not operate stand-alone special schools. Each ASG has access to an enhanced provision within the primary school cluster and with the secondary school. The school counselling service is accessible to all children and young people ages 10 years and above – based on current Scottish Government funding model and reporting structure.

| Academic Year | Ratio of Counsellor to Pupils – Secondary School ¹ | | Ratio of Counsellor to Pupils – Primary School ² |
|----------------------------|---|--------|--|
| 1. Academic Year 2023/2024 | Collective Secondary School Roll enrolled within 8 Secondary Schools: 5458 pupils – 6 Counsellors (Offering 14 days provision) Ratio = 909 pupils per counsellor | | Whole School Roll: 6675 pupils – 4 Counsellors (Offering 12 days provision) Ratio: 1668 pupils per counsellor |
| | Buckie High School | 1:413 | Primary 6 and 7 pupils: 2009 – 4 Counsellors (Offering 12 days provision) Ratio = 502 pupils per counsellor |
| | Elgin Academy | 1: 356 | |
| | Elgin High | 1: 281 | |
| | Forres Academy | 1:410 | |
| | Keith Grammar School | 1: 370 | |
| | Lossiemouth High school ³ | 1: 658 | |
| | Milnes High school | 1: 477 | |
| Speyside High School | 1: 395 | | |



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|----------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| 2. Academic Year 2022/2023 | Collective Secondary School Roll enrolled within 8 Secondary Schools: 5388 pupils – 6 Counsellors (Offering 14 days provision) Ratio = 898 pupils per counsellor | | Whole School Roll: 6824 pupils - 4 Counsellors (Offering 12 days provision) Ratio = 1706 pupils per counsellor |
| | Buckie High School | 1: 418 ratio | Primary 6 & 7 pupils: 2064 - 4 Counsellors (Offering 12 days provision) Ratio = 516 pupil per counsellor |
| | Elgin Academy | 1: 343 ratio | |
| | Elgin High School | 1: 277 ratio | |
| | Forres Academy | 1: 425 ratio | |
| | Keith Grammar School | 1: 377 ratio | |
| | Lossiemouth High School ³ | 1: 617 ratio | |
| | Milnes High School | 1: 445 ratio | |
| | Speyside High School | 1: 402 ratio | |
| 3. Academic Year 2021/2022 | Collective Secondary School Roll enrolled within 8 Secondary Schools: 5328 pupils – 6 Counsellors (Offering 14 days provision) Ratio = 888 pupils per counsellor | | Whole school Roll: 6889 pupils - 4 Counsellors (Offering 12 days provision) Ratio = 1723 pupils per counsellor |
| | Buckie High School | 1: 423 ratio | Primary 6 & 7 pupils: 2084 - 4 counsellors (Offering 12 days provision) Ratio = 521 pupils per counsellor |
| | Elgin Academy | 1: 343 ratio | |
| | Elgin High School | 1: 265 ratio | |
| | Forres Academy | 1: 417 ratio | |
| | Keith Grammar School | 1: 397 ratio | |
| | Lossiemouth High School ³ | 1: 569 ratio | |
| | Milnes High School | 1: 429 ratio | |
| | Speyside High School | 1: 425 ratio | |



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- d. **What are the current waiting times for pupils to access a counsellor in secondary, special and primary sectors?**
- a. Waiting times for each school are fluid and dependent on the needs of the service/number of referrals received at any given time in the year. They vary between 2 weeks and 8 weeks generally for secondary, dependent upon the aforementioned.
 - b. Waiting times in primary are dependent upon the availability of parent/guardian for initial telephone collaboration prior to starting with children. Once parent calls have been completed, waiting times are approximately 2 weeks.
 - c. Each young person referred in secondary schools is invited to screening within a maximum of 10 days of referral date and at this time an assessment of risk is made which informs prioritisation of appointments. Availability for screening is dependent upon attendance, exams and availability of young person to attend.
 - d. Urgent referrals are invited for commencement of counselling within 2 weeks of screening.

¹No of days provision per school varies between schools and is informed by a number of predetermined factors. The provision is flexible to be allocated to meet demand.

²Contract restricted to children aged 10 and over, therefore figures provided are for Primary 6 and 7 only, however these are approximate as some children in P6 are under the age of 10 and some children in P5 reach the age of 10 before the end of the Academic Year

³This Secondary School engages the service of additional external Counselling Services through funded through their own school budget